

AMENDMENT A
(37 C.F.R. 1.111)

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 7, 10 and 12-14 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

Please cancel Claims 3-6 and 11 without disclaimer to their content and without prejudice to their subsequent reintroduction into this or a future patent application.

The claims are attached herein on separate sheets.

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

[Deleted material is struck-through and added material is underlined]

1. (Currently Amended) A device for preventing entry of an unleaded gas fill nozzle in a diesel fuel filler neck comprising:

an elongate sleeve having an upper end and a lower end and configured to be inserted inside the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve having means near its upper end for providing a snug fit against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck when the sleeve is pushed into diesel fuel filler neck; and

gas nozzle blocking means for preventing the insertion of an unleaded gas fill nozzle into the sleeve,

wherein the means near the upper end of the sleeve for providing the snug fit of the sleeve against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck is one or more protrusions on an outside surface of the sleeve.

2. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 1, wherein the upper end of the sleeve further comprises:

stop means for preventing the insertion of the upper end of the sleeve beyond the top edge of the diesel fuel filler neck.

3. – 6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) **A device for preventing entry of an unleaded gas fill nozzle in a diesel fuel filler neck comprising:**

an elongate sleeve having an upper end and a lower end and configured to be inserted inside the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve having means near its upper end for providing a snug fit against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck when the sleeve is pushed into diesel fuel filler neck; and

gas nozzle blocking means for preventing the insertion of an unleaded gas fill nozzle into the sleeve ~~The device according to Claim 1~~, wherein the gas nozzle blocking means for preventing the insertion of an unleaded gas fill nozzle into the sleeve comprises:

an elongate support structure fixed at its bottom end to the sleeve at a depth sufficient so as not to interfere with the insertion of a diesel fuel fill nozzle, the support structure projecting vertically upward and spaced-apart from an internal wall surface of the sleeve so as to allow the insertion of the diesel fuel fill nozzle between the internal wall surface of the sleeve and the support structure; and

the upper end of the support structure having blocking grid generally perpendicular to the support structure, the blocking grid perimeter also being configured to allow insertion of the diesel fuel fill nozzle around its perimeter and further lowered between the internal wall surface of the sleeve and the support structure.

8. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 7, wherein the blocking grid is one of:

generally X-shaped;

generally figure 8 shaped;

generally half-moon shaped;

generally half-moon shaped with pie-shaped segments within said grid; and

generally pie-shaped.

9. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 7, wherein the blocking grid is configured such that when the sleeve is inserted into the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve is oriented such that the blocking grid will not interfere with the operation of the automatic shut off safety device in the diesel fuel fill nozzle.

10. (Currently Amended) A device for preventing entry of an unleaded gas fill nozzle in a diesel fuel filler neck comprising:

an elongate sleeve having an upper end and a lower end and configured to be inserted inside the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve having means near its upper end for providing a snug fit against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck when the sleeve is pushed into diesel fuel filler neck;

gas nozzle blocking means for preventing the insertion of an unleaded gas fill nozzle into the sleeve;

~~The device according to Claim 1, further comprising:~~

a diesel fuel filler neck cap; and

the cap further comprising an internal bore through said cap, said bore aligning with the opening of the diesel fuel filler neck when engaged, and said bore further being sized to allow access of the diesel fuel fill nozzle through the cap into the sleeve, and closure cap means on the top surface of the cap for environmentally securing the diesel fuel filler neck, thereby preventing the entry of contaminants into said bore and said sleeve when not refueling.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 10 ~~11~~, further comprising:

key locking means for preventing the removal of the cap and sleeve from the diesel fuel filler neck without authorization.

13. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein the upper end of the sleeve is attached to a bottom end of the cap to form an integrally combined cap and sleeve.

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to Claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein the closure cap means is tethered to the cap.

15. (Previously Presented) A device for preventing entry of an unleaded gas fill nozzle in a diesel fuel filler neck comprising:

a diesel fuel filler neck cap;

an internal bore through said cap, said bore aligning with the opening of the diesel fuel filler neck when engaged, and said bore further being sized to allow access of the diesel fuel fill nozzle through the cap into the diesel fuel filler neck;

closure cap means on the top surface of the cap for environmentally securing the diesel fuel filler neck, thereby preventing the entry of contaminants into said bore and said diesel fuel filler neck when not refueling;

key locking means for preventing the removal of the cap from the diesel fuel filler neck without authorization;

the closure cap means being tethered to the cap; and

gas nozzle blocking means for preventing the insertion of an unleaded gas fill nozzle into the diesel fuel filler neck.

16. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 15, further comprising:

an elongate sleeve having an upper end and a lower end and configured to be inserted inside the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve having means near its upper end for providing a snug fit against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck when the sleeve is pushed into diesel fuel filler neck.

17. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 16, wherein the upper end of the sleeve further comprises:

stop means for preventing the insertion of the upper end of the sleeve beyond the top edge of the diesel fuel filler neck.

18. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 17, wherein the stop means is one or more flanged portions, which seat against the top edge of the diesel fuel filler neck.

19. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 17, wherein the stop means is a flanged rim around the upper end of the sleeve, the flanged rim be configured to seat against the top edge of the diesel fuel filler neck.

20. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 16, wherein the means near the upper end of the sleeve for providing the snug fit of the sleeve against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck is one or more protrusions on an outside surface of the sleeve.

21. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 16, wherein the means near the upper end of the sleeve for providing the snug fit of the sleeve against the internal wall surface of the diesel fuel filler neck is an expanded upper end of the sleeve.

22. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 16, wherein the gas nozzle blocking means comprises:

an elongate support structure fixed at its bottom end to the sleeve at a depth sufficient so as not to interfere with the insertion of a diesel fuel fill nozzle, the support structure projecting vertically upward and spaced-apart from an internal wall surface of the sleeve so as to allow the

insertion of the diesel fuel fill nozzle between the internal wall surface of the sleeve and the support structure; and

the upper end of the support structure having blocking grid generally perpendicular to the support structure, the blocking grid perimeter also being configured to allow insertion of the diesel fuel fill nozzle around its perimeter and further lowered between the internal wall surface of the sleeve and the support structure.

23. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 22, wherein the blocking grid is one of:

generally X-shaped;

generally figure 8 shaped;

generally half-moon shaped;

generally half-moon shaped with pie-shaped segments within said grid; and

generally pie-shaped.

24. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 22, wherein the blocking grid is configured such that when the sleeve is inserted into the diesel fuel filler neck, the sleeve is oriented such that the blocking grid will not interfere with the operation of the automatic shut off safety device in the diesel fuel fill nozzle.

25. (Previously Presented) The device according to Claim 23, wherein the upper end of the sleeve is attached to a bottom end of the cap to form an integrally combined cap and sleeve.